

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on pg. 1, line 4 as follows:

This application is a continuation application of application no. 09/717,227, which was filed on November 22, 2000, and which issued on March 9, 2004 as U.S. Patent No. 6, 703,707, and which was based upon and claimed the benefit of Japanese Patent Applications No. 11-333119 filed on November 24, 1999, No. 11-333124 filed on November 24, 1999, No. 2000-88579 filed on March 24, 2000, No. 2000-97911 filed on March 30, 2000, No. 2000-97912 filed on March 30, 2000 and No. 2000-305228 filed on October 4, 2000, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. This application further is related to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/321,365 filed December 18, 2002, which issued on February 17, 2004 as U.S. Patent No. 6,693,350, and the following applications filed concurrently herewith on November 4, 2003: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,828, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,954, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,837, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,838 which issued on September 28, 2004 as U.S. Patent No. 6,798,062, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,785, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,784, and U.S. Patent Application No. 10/699,746.